

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission
Seeking Public Input on International Trade**

The Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission will hold a public hearing at the Skowhegan Community Center in Skowhegan on Wednesday, October 24th, 2012. The hearing will begin at 5:30pm and is expected to run until 8:00pm.

Maine businesses and employees are impacted by international trade. The public hearing on Wednesday, October 24th will provide a forum for public testimony regarding the impacts of international trade and international trade agreements on Maine's markets and labor for agricultural goods, manufactured goods and services.

Skowhegan was chosen as the location for the public hearing so the community would have an opportunity to testify before the Commission on the impact the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the trade agreement currently under negotiations by member countries, could have on New Balance and the surrounding communities.

The public hearing on Wednesday, October 24th in Skowhegan is open to the public and all are welcome to attend and testify. The Commission will also hold a meeting at the Skowhegan Community Center prior to the public hearing, which the public is also welcome to attend. Details and an agenda on the public meeting can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/citpolagnds.htm>.

The Citizens Trade Policy Commission is a non-partisan commission established by the Legislature in May of 2004 to assess and monitor the legal and economic impacts of trade agreements on state and local laws, working conditions and the business environment; to provide a mechanism for citizens and legislators to voice their concerns and recommendations and to make policy recommendations designed to protect Maine's jobs, business environment and laws from any negative impact of trade agreements. The commission consists of 17 voting members representing a broad spectrum of interested parties and five nonvoting members from five state governmental departments. For more information on the Citizen Trade Policy Commission, please visit its website: <http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/citpol.htm>.

Public Hearing Location:

Skowhegan Community Center
39 Poulin Drive
Skowhegan, Maine 04976
Start Time – 5:30pm.
Estimated End Time – 8:00pm

For more information about the meeting, contact: Danielle Fox or Alyson Mayo at (207) 287-1670.

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